

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 9, and ending on page 5, line 3, as follows:

The invention provides a method for configuring a database system to store information regarding a plurality of items, the method comprising: establishing a database on a computer system; establishing within the database a first object corresponding to a first item of the plurality of items; generating within the first object at least one field; associating a field identifier with each the field; and storing at least a portion of the information within each the field. Preferably, for the plurality of items, the method further provides: defining at least one attribute of the plurality of items; creating a field identifier corresponding to each defined attribute of the plurality of items, the field identifiers comprising a set of field identifiers; and wherein the step of generating comprises: obtaining item information regarding the first item; dividing the item information into at least one category, wherein each category corresponds to a field identifier; and generating within the first object a field corresponding to each the category. Preferably, the step of associating comprises, for each field: selecting from the set of field identifiers the field identifier that corresponds to the same defined attribute of the plurality of items that the field corresponds to; and associating the selected field identifier with the field. Preferably, each the field identifier is unique. Preferably, each the field identifier includes a numeric code. Preferably, each defined attribute of the plurality of items describes a trait of the plurality of items; and each defined attribute of the item describes a trait of the item. Preferably, the step of defining at least one attribute of the plurality of items comprises: obtaining information regarding the plurality of items; dividing the information regarding the plurality of items into at least one category; and defining an attribute of the plurality of items that describes the information in each category. Preferably, the information regarding the plurality of items is obtained from an analysis of the plurality of items. Preferably, the item information is obtained from an analysis of the plurality of items. Preferably, the step of storing comprises, for each the field, storing in the field the item information in the category corresponding to the field.

Serial No. 09/998,364

Amendment and Remarks Responsive

To Office Action Mailed 06/17/04

Page 2 of 24

199700v4

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 27, and ending on page 6, line 32, as follows:

1. In another aspect, the invention provides a database system configured to store information regarding a plurality of items, each item in the plurality of items having at least one item attribute, the database system comprising: a computer having memory, a database stored in the memory, a first object in the database corresponding to one item of the plurality of items, the first object corresponding to the first item, at least one field in the first object, a field identifier associated with each field; and information regarding the first item stored in the first object. Preferably, the plurality of items have a predetermined set of attributes, and the computer system includes a predetermined list of field identifiers, each field identifier in the predetermined list corresponding to one of the predetermined set of attributes, and the at least one field comprises one field corresponding to each attribute in the predetermined set of attributes for which information is known regarding the first item. Preferably, the at least one field comprises one field corresponding to each attribute in the predetermined set of attributes that is also an item attribute of the first item. Each field identifier associated with each field preferably comprises the field identifier corresponding to the attribute in the predetermined set of attributes to which the field corresponds. Preferably, the field identifier associated with each the field comprises an identifier unique to the attribute in the predetermined set of attributes to which the field identifier corresponds. Preferably, each field identifier associated with each field comprises a unique field identifier. Preferably, each field identifier associated with each field comprises a numeric code. Each attribute of the predetermined set of attributes preferably comprises a trait of the plurality of items and each attribute of each item in the plurality of items comprises a trait of that item. Preferably, the information regarding the first item stored in the first object comprises information regarding the first item stored in each field of the first object. Preferably, the information stored in each field of the first object corresponds to the same attribute of the first item to which the field corresponds. The database is preferably adapted to categorize the information regarding each item into categories wherein the information in each category describes an attribute of the item, and ~~define~~ defines the attribute described by

Serial No. 09/998,314

Amendment and Remarks Responsive

To Office Action Mailed 08/17/04

Page 3 of 24

199700v4

the information in each category. Preferably, each field in the first object is identifiable and retrievable from the database by way of the field identifier associated with that field. Preferably, the information regarding the plurality of items comprises information regarding a plurality of products, services, or product and services. The database preferably comprises a relational database. Preferably, an object identifier is associated with the first object. Preferably, each object identifier comprises a unique identifier. Preferably, each object identifier comprises a user name and password. Preferably, the first object is identifiable and retrievable from the database by way of the object identifier.

Please amend the paragraph on page 11, lines 3 – 10, as follows:

The step of ~~step of~~ revising preferably comprises: establishing an item database on an item database server computer system remote from the client computer system, the item database including item information relating to a first item, responsive to a command issued by the management tool, retrieving the item information from the item database to the management tool, and responsive to a command issued by the management tool, capturing the item information relating to the first item, and revising the retrieved first list to include the item information relating to the first item.

Please amend Table 2 on pages 21 and 22 as follows:

TABLE 2

Product Object	Field Identifier	Attribute	Information/Value
21978 21987	2414	Manufacturer	Compaq
	2481	Name	Compaq iPaq
	2488	Description	This uniquely designed product is ideal for corporate network environments and for employees who primarily use their PC for mainstream office productivity applications and corporate Internet/Intranet access.
	2489	Image URL	http://www.warehouse.com/Mecalimages/www/prodimage_standard/177822.jpg

Serial No. 09/998,364

Amendment and Remarks Responsive
To Office Action Mailed 06/17/04

Page 4 of 24

199700v4

2492	Manufacturer ID	14
2493	Model Number	470018-160
2495	Price	459.97
3365	Q/A Status	Accepted
3423	Modem (yes/no)	No
3424	NIC	No
2594	Notes	kh 12/7 cleanup
2595	Datasheet URL	http://www5.compaq.com/products/Internetdevices/Models/iPAQ_175756_003.html
2493	Model Number	175756-003
817	Operating System	Windows 2000
474	Display Size Inches	None
542	Base Memory	128
1150	Hard Drive Capacity	8.4
1156	Modem Type	None
1178	Processor	P3-500 MHz
1217	Case Style	Mini Tower
1619	Speakers Included	Integrated Speakers
2334	RateltAll.com Ratings	1.0
2344	ConsumerReview.com Ratings	5.0

Serial No. 09/998,364

Amendment and Remarks Responsive

To Office Action Mailed 06/17/04

Page 5 of 24

199700v4